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BIOLOGY AND MATHEMATICS.¹

THAT which is most characteristic of the present epoch in the history of man is undoubtedly the vast and beneficent growth of science.

In things apart from science, other races at times long past may be compared to the most civilized people of to-day.

The lyric poetry of Sappho has never been equaled. The epic flavor of Homer, even after translation, comes down to us unsurpassed through the ages.

Dante, the voice of ten silent centuries, may wait another ten centuries before his medieval miracle of song finds its peer.

The Apollo Belvidere, the Venus of Milo, the Laocoon, are the glory of antique, the despair of modern sculpture. To mention oratory to a schoolboy is to recall Demosthenes and Cicero, even if he has never pictured Caesar, that greatest of the sons of men, quelling the mutinous soldiery by his first word, or with outstretched arm, in Egypt's palace window, holding enthralled his raging enemies, gaining precious moments, *time*, the only thing he needed to enable him to crush them under his dominant intellect.

There is no need for multiplying examples. The one thing that gives the present generation its predominance is science.

All criticisms of life made before science had taken its present place, or attempting to ignore its prominence, are obsolete, as are of necessity any systems founded on pre-scientific or anti-scientific conceptions.

¹ Address before the Ohio Academy of Science.